



Home Clean-up and Renovation — Siding, Doors and Windows

Repairing Exterior Siding



- ① Strip drywall and insulation from inside wall. Allow studs to dry thoroughly before proceeding. (Note: Insulation can cause skin irritation. Wear protective skin covering when working with it.) Clean electrical outlets and check wiring.
- ② Check for silt deposits in crevasses behind siding. If crevasses are filled with silt, remove siding and clean out all silt. Silt left in crevasses will trap moisture, causing mold and peeling paint.
- ③ Check for cracked or warped siding. If only a few boards are warped or cracked, replace them individually. If all siding is warped, cover entire wall with new material. You can install new siding over old, if there are no silt deposits behind old siding. This will also help improve insulation.
- ④ Cover or replace warped siding. It is easiest to cover warped horizontal beveled siding with new vertical siding, and to cover warped vertical siding with horizontal siding. Installing new siding over old will require trim work around doors and windows. Consult a carpenter for installation details. Siding is available in vinyl, aluminum and wood. Wood siding may be either natural or pre-finished. Vinyl and aluminum siding are permanently colored.

Care of Doors

Take the knobs from the doors and lay the doors on a level surface with wooden strips separating them to facilitate drying and to prevent warping and twisting out of shape. Veneered doors are very likely to be ruined by submersion, but some of them may be usable if they are piled properly and dried carefully to prevent separation.

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Windows

Open Flooded Windows

Get windows open as soon as possible to speed up drying of floor and walls. Windows with metal frames should be opened. Adding wax to the tracks along which the windows move will protect them against corrosion.

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Replace Broken Window Panes

- ① Measure the pane size. Make sure there is at least $\frac{1}{16}$ -inch clearance on all sides to assure a tight putty joint.
- ② Remove old panel. Apply glazing compound or putty along the groove holding the pane. (Use the kind of glazing compound recommended for your type of frame material.) Roll compound into $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch rope-like lengths. Place it in position.
- ③ Set pane in place. Press down gently on all sides of the pane to depress glazing compound into a flat film and to seal exterior joint.
- ④ Insert glazier's points (one centered on each end and two along each side in a wooden frame) or metal clips (in a metal frame) to secure the pane.
- ⑤ Apply glazing compound on interior side. First apply a generous amount of compound by drawing a loaded putty knife across the mullions (pane separators) on edges of sash at a right angle. Then draw the knife parallel to the frame to smooth the compound into a triangular bead. Size the bead so that glazing compound is not visible from the other side of the frame.
- ⑥ With the putty knife remove excess putty from the outside of the frame. Smooth remaining putty edge.

Clean Pane

- ① Remove specks of glazing compound with turpentine or benzene.
- ② Paint wooden trim when compound is dry.